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JAN 14 2004
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
JC968

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Toshiaki TAKASE, et al.

Docket No: Q65791

Appln. No.: 09/924,546

Group Art Unit: 1771

Confirmation No.: 1990

Examiner: John J. Guarriello

Filed: August 9, 2001

January 14, 2004

For: BATTERY SEPARATOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office.

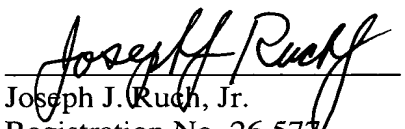
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing

concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
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Date: January 14, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

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Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known	
Application Number	09/924,546
Confirmation Number	1990
Filing Date	August 9, 2001
First Named Inventor	Toshiaki TAKASE
Art Unit	1771
Examiner Name	John J. Guarriello
Attorney Docket Number	Q65791

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Document Number: Number	Document Number: Kind Code[2] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
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		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document: Country Code[3]	Foreign Patent Document: Number[4]	Foreign Patent Document: Kind Code[5] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation[6]
		EP	0 834 936	A1	04/08/1998	MITSUBISHI PAPER MILLS, LTD	
		EP	0 848 436	A2	06/17/1998	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.	
		JP	56 138863	A	10/29/1981	TOSHIBA CORP	Abstract
		JP	10 312786	A	11/24/1998	JAPAN VILENE CO LTD	Abstract
		EP	0 861 929	A1	09/02/1998	KURARAY CO., LTD.	
		JP	2000 353509	A	12/19/2000	JAPAN VILENE CO., LTD	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation[6]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

[1]Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). [2]See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. [3] Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). [4]For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5]Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. [6] Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

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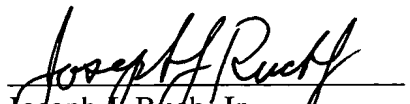
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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